

## Habitat Management (CSP Enhancements)

October 2005

### Colorado Enhancement Activity Job Sheet H-11

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Improve habitat quality for wildlife species and improve drinking water quality for wildlife and domestic animals by installing stock tank escape ladders.**

Payment = \$5.00 / watering facility / year in which stock tank ladders are used to minimize avian and mammalian mortality from drowning.

This enhancement benefits avian and mammalian species that are often trapped in livestock watering facilities by providing a means of escape. The design incorporates expanded metal ramps on all sides, like an inverted half-cone. The ramp length is 28" and the "wings" to be bent down are 32" across. They are made of 14 gauge expanded metal x 3/4" holes. A sheet metal pattern can be clamped to the expanded metal to show where to cut out the ladders. Six ladders can be made from one 4'x10' sheet of expanded metal. After cutting the design out with a cutting torch, the metal is bent with a metal brake 4" between bends to make the sloped side for the ramp. A 3/16" rod is bent to form the hangers for round rim and rimless tanks or a bolt, washer and nut can be used to secure them to the tank. This design is intended to be beneficial because animals swimming the edge of the tank will be more likely to find the ladder and escape. The ladders can be coated with industrial paint to minimize rusting. The ladders must be approved by an NRCS or Colorado Division of Wildlife biologist prior to use.



**Documentation Required:** Use the following table for documentation and attach a plan map showing the location of the watering facilities affected.

Field Identifier	Number of Tanks with Ladders	Year Installed

I certify that I have the number of stock tank escape ladders in the fields(s) listed in the table above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_